

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 2, 2004, Claims 1, 2 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cherubini (U.S. Patent No. 6,735,221). Claims 3 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cherubini (U.S. Patent No. 6,735,221) in view of Hurvig et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,507,592). In addition, Claims 2, 19, and 21 are objected to due to alleged formalities. Claims 4-5 and 10-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Finally, Claims 18-21 are allowed.

Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-3, 6-9, and 17 without prejudice. In addition, Applicants have rewritten Claims 4-5 and 10-16 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 18-21.

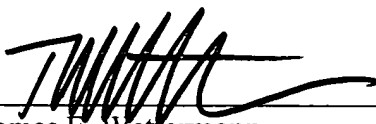
Applicants respectfully submit that, in view of the remarks above, the present application, including claims 4-5, 10-16, and 18-21, is in condition for allowance and solicit action to that end.

If there are any matters that may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

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